

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: **Robert D. Fish**

Examiner: **Not yet determined**

Serial No: **US national phase of  
PCT/US00/35133**

Art Unit: **Not yet determined**

Filed: **22 December 2000**

For: **Matter Management  
Computer Software**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following as a preliminary amendment. The application is amended herein  
to the following:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

AI Sub  
B1

21. A matter management system having a routine that calendars a future task based on a date rule and a count-down timer that is preset by a user or by default.